

Response under 37 CFR §1.116 **expedited procedure** . Examining Group: 2615 (MPEP 714.13)

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

### LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A modular hearing aid device, comprising:

5           a microphone module that comprises a microphone module housing and  
            at least one microphone; and

            a hearing aid device module that comprises a hearing aid device module  
            housing and at least one microphone;

            wherein

10           the microphone module housing supplements the hearing aid device  
            module housing to form a housing of the hearing aid device having  
            a uniform effect, the microphone module and the hearing aid device  
            module being detachably connectable; and

an external surface of the microphone module housing has a curvature  
15           identical to an external surface of the hearing aid device module  
            housing at outer edge boundaries of the microphone module  
            housing when the microphone module is attached to the hearing  
            aid device module.

20   2. (original) The modular hearing aid device according to claim 1, further  
         comprising:

            an attenuation-damped connection for connecting the microphone module  
            and the hearing aid device module.

25   3. (currently amended) A modular hearing aid device, comprising:

            a microphone module that comprises a microphone module housing and  
            at least one microphone;

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a hearing aid device module that comprises a hearing aid device module housing and at least one microphone; and  
an attenuation-damped connection for connecting the microphone module and the hearing aid device module;

5 wherein

the microphone module housing supplements the hearing aid device module housing to form a housing of the hearing aid device having a uniform effect, the microphone module and the hearing aid device module being detachably connectable; and

10 an external surface of the microphone module housing has a curvature identical to an external surface of the hearing aid device module housing at outer edge boundaries of the microphone module housing when the microphone module is attached to the hearing aid device module; and

15 ~~wherein~~ the attenuation-damped connection is arranged at at least one oscillatory node of characteristic oscillations of the hearing aid device module housing.

4. (original) The modular hearing aid device according to claim 2, wherein the  
20 attenuation-damped connection comprises a damping material.

5. (currently amended) ~~The modular hearing aid device according to claim 1,~~  
A modular hearing aid device, comprising:

25 a microphone module that comprises a microphone module housing and at least one microphone; and

a hearing aid device module that comprises a hearing aid device module housing and at least one microphone;

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wherein

the microphone module housing supplements the hearing aid device  
module housing to form a housing of the hearing aid device having  
a uniform effect, the microphone module and the hearing aid device  
module being detachably connectable; and

~~wherein~~ the microphone of the microphone module is fashioned as  
directional microphone.

6. (previously presented) The modular hearing aid device according to claim 1,  
wherein the microphone module comprises at least two microphones.

7. (currently amended) ~~The modular hearing aid device according to claim 6,~~

A modular hearing aid device, comprising:

a microphone module that comprises a microphone module housing and  
at least one microphone; and

a hearing aid device module that comprises a hearing aid device module  
housing and at least one microphone;

wherein

the microphone module housing supplements the hearing aid device  
module housing to form a housing of the hearing aid device having  
a uniform effect, the microphone module and the hearing aid device  
module being detachably connectable;

the microphone module comprises at least two microphones; and

~~wherein~~ the at least two microphones in the microphone module form a  
directional microphone system.

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8. (previously presented) The modular hearing aid device according to claim 1, wherein the microphone module is configured to be simultaneously employed with the microphone of the hearing aid device module.

5 9. (currently amended) A modular hearing aid device, comprising:

a microphone module that comprises a microphone module housing and  
at least one microphone; and

a hearing aid device module that comprises a hearing aid device module  
housing and at least one microphone;

10 wherein

the microphone module housing supplements the hearing aid device  
module housing to form a housing of the hearing aid device having  
a uniform effect, the microphone module and the hearing aid device  
module being detachably connectable; and

15 an external surface of the microphone module housing has a curvature  
identical to an external surface of the hearing aid device module  
housing at outer edge boundaries of the microphone module  
housing when the microphone module is attached to the hearing  
aid device module; and

20 wherein the modular hearing aid device is configured such that the  
microphone of the hearing aid module is deactivated when the  
microphone module is connected to the hearing aid module.

10. (original) The modular hearing aid device according to claim 1, wherein the  
25 hearing aid device module is configured to accept various microphone modules  
that respectively comprise different acoustic and/or electronic properties.

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11. (original) The modular hearing aid device according to claim 1, wherein the microphone module comprises an electronic interface to the hearing aid device module.

5 12. (previously presented) The modular hearing aid device according to claim 1, wherein the microphone module microphone is acoustically connected via an air interface to receive sound signals emanating externally from the hearing aid device.

10 13. (currently amended) ~~The modular hearing aid device according to claim 1,~~

A modular hearing aid device, comprising:

a microphone module that comprises a microphone module housing and  
at least one microphone; and

15 a hearing aid device module that comprises a hearing aid device module  
housing and at least one microphone;

wherein

20 the microphone module housing supplements the hearing aid device  
module housing to form a housing of the hearing aid device having  
a uniform effect, the microphone module and the hearing aid device  
module being detachably connectable; and

~~wherein~~ the microphone module comprises substantially a same shape  
and volume as a gap within the hearing aid device module.